

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appln. No: To Be Assigned
Applicants: Yasutoshi YAMAMOTO, et al.
Filed: Herewith
Title: IMAGING SYSTEM (AS AMENDED)
TC/A.U.: To Be Assigned
Examiner: To Be Assigned
Confirmation No.: To Be Assigned
Docket No.: AOY-3986US

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT***Mail Stop PCT***

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

S I R :

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98 and to the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application is requested to consider and make of record the references listed on the PTO 1449 (R&P) submitted herewith. A copy of each of the listed references is also enclosed.

Although the information submitted herewith may be "material" to the Examiner's consideration of the subject application, this submission is not intended to constitute an admission that such information is "prior art" as to the claimed invention.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made.

The following Japanese references are not in the English language:

- 1) 2000-354193
- 2) 2000-092376
- 3) 2000-059656
- 4) 10-178612

References 1) to 4) include an English language abstract, and further, Reference 4) has a "concise explanation" under 37 CFR § 1.98(a)(3) set forth in the background portion of the specification.

References 1) to 3) were cited in a search report by a foreign Patent Office in a patent application corresponding to the above-identified patent application. An English translation of the International Search Report, indicating the degree of relevance determined by the foreign patent office is submitted herewith. MPEP Section 609 IIIA(3), second paragraph.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed concurrently with the above-referenced application.

Respectfully submitted,

Lawrence E. Ashery, Reg. No. 34,515
Attorney for Applicants

LEA/fp

Enclosures: PTO Form 1449 (2 sheets)
Copies of (4) References
English translation of International Search Report

Dated: January 21, 2005

P.O. Box 980
Valley Forge, PA 19482-0980
(610) 407-0700

The Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge payment to Deposit Account No. **18-0350** of any fees associated with this communication.

EXPRESS MAIL: Mailing Label Number: EV 504 353 660 US

Date of Deposit: January 21, 2005

I hereby certify that this paper and fee are being deposited, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 and with sufficient postage, using the "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service of the United States Postal Service on the date indicated above and that the deposit is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

KATHLEEN LIBBY

DT01 Rec'd PCT/PTO 21 JAN 2005

PTO/SB/08A (AW 4/25/03) (04-03)

Approved for use through 04/30/2004. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for Form 1449/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

SHEET 1 of 2

Complete if Known

Application Number

To Be Assigned

Filing Date

Herewith

First Named Inventor

Yasutoshi YAMAMOTO, et al.

Art Unit

To Be Assigned

Examiner Name

To Be Assigned

Attorney Docket No.

AOY-3986US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date (MM-DD-YYYY)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code ² (if known)			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date (MM-DD- YYYY)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		JP 2000-354193 (with English abstract)	12/19/00	SONY CORP		<input type="checkbox"/>
		JP 2000-092376 (with English abstract)	03/31/00	SONY CORP		<input type="checkbox"/>
		JP 2000-059656 (with English abstract)	02/25/00	MINOLTA CO LTD		<input type="checkbox"/>
		JP 10-178612 (with English abstract)	06/30/98	CANON INC		<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
-----------------------	--	--------------------	--

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional).

²See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04.

³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard St.3).

⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible.

⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

The collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for Form 1449/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>	Complete if Known	
	Application Number	To Be Assigned 01522066
	Filing Date	Herewith
	First Named Inventor	Yasutoshi YAMAMOTO, et al.
	Art Unit	To Be Assigned
	Examiner Name	To Be Assigned
SHEET 2 of 2	Attorney Docket No.	AOY-3986US

[illegible]

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
--------------------	--	-----------------	--

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional).

²Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

The collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 120 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO:**
Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.